



Objective:

To provide Tennessee students access to rigorous academic/career pathways, which are interlinked with local, regional, and state economic/labor market needs and trends in order to develop and promote a workforce that is educated and skilled in their chosen fields. Success will yield highly educated, highly employable Tennesseans with abundant career opportunities.

First Steps:

- Contact the Pathways TN Program Director, Nick.Hansen@tn.gov, to begin working with the State Planning Team.
- Convene regional stakeholders to participate in an initial asset mapping visit with state team. Successful pathways initiatives include a self-identified intermediary organization and the following stakeholders:
 - ✓ Local Government Officials
 - ✓ Chamber(s) of Commerce
 - ✓ K-12 School Leadership
 - ✓ Postsecondary Institution Leaders
 - ✓ Regional Development District
 - ✓ Workforce Investment Board
 - ✓ Industry Representatives
 - ✓ Community Organizations
- Research initiatives and gather data within your region around relevant work already happening. Identify common goals/objectives and where these could play a part along the pathways framework.
- Identify stakeholders for a regional leadership council.
- Hold first meeting for regional leadership council and establish buy in for a local pathways initiative.
- Establish regional infrastructure- work groups, meetings, facilitation, mission, vision, purpose, goal.
- Use regional data and leadership council interest to determine pathway sectors.
- Complete an internal audit of what is available or needed to execute the decided pathways such as academic offerings, wrap around services, employer support, job/skills needs, equipment, barriers, etc.
- Develop a strategic plan to drive partnerships, goals, timeline, accountability and sustainability.